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August 31, 1984

Mr. Joseph A. Galda Chief, Water Permits Branch United States Environmental Protection Agency Region III 6th and Walnut Streets Philadelphia, PA 19106

RE: Pretreatment Program, NPDES DE0050547 Attorney's Statement

Dear Mr. Galda:

I am the attorney for New Castle County and the following statement is submitted pursuant to the requirements contained in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 403.9(b)(1) regarding legal authority for New Castle County to implement the New Castle County Pretreatment Program.

It is my opinion that New Castle County has adequate authority to carry out the program described in 40 CFR Section 403.8, based on authority granted to it by Chapter 16, Article VIII of the New Castle County Code as amended by Ordinance 84-134 (adopted 8-6-84, a copy of which has been forwarded to your office).

The following references to the legal authority requirements of 40 CFR 403.8(f)(1) are correlated with appropriate sections of the Delaware Code and the New Castle County Code which provide the required authority.

General. 9 Del.C. §§330, 1521 and 2202 provide New Castle County with broad power concerning sewage disposal. Copies of these provisions are attached. Specifically, 9 Del.C. §2318, a copy of which is attached, grants New Castle County the power to adopt all necessary regulations governing the use of its sewerage system. Pursuant to this authority, New Castle County has adopted Ordinance 84-134 which sets forth the terms and conditions upon which industrial users may connect to the system.

may not be made without an industrial user first obtaining a Wastewater

Discharge Permit under Sections 16-70 and 16-71, which may contain conditions imposed by Section 16-72. Section 16-70 also requires existing industrial users to obtain a Wastewater Discharge Permit within ninety (90) days of notification. Section 16-74 prohibits the use of an existing permit for a new or changed operation and the Director of the New Castle County Department of Public Works may, under Section 16-73, change the conditions of any Wastewater Discharge Permit as circumstances may require.

403.8(f)(l)(ii) New Castle County Ordinance 84-134 requires compliance with applicable Pretreatment Standards, including the EPA's listed general prohibitions, specific prohibitions and local limits developed to implement the general and specific standards. Section 16-64 proflibits the introduction into the receiving waters or the effluent of a sewage treatment plant any liquids containing oxygen demanding pollutants or toxic obnoxious materials in sufficient quantity, either singly or by interaction with other wastes, which would tend to injure or interfere with any sewage treatment process, constitute an additional hazard to humans or animals, create a public nuisance, or create any hazard. Section 16-62 prohibits conditions which violate pretreatment requirements, including national pretreatment standards. Section 16-62 prohibits those discharges not approved by the appropriate State and/or Federal authority. These sections empower New Castle County to enforce the general and specific prohibitions contained in 40 CFR 403.5(a) and (b). County discharge limits developed pursuant to 403.5(c) and (d) and national categorical pretreatment standards may be imposed by the Director as permit conditions under Section 16-72 of Ordinance 84-134. Section 16-62(d) empowers the Director to regulate discharges regulated by the EPA.

403.8(f)(l)(iii) New Castle County has control via a permit system authorized by Ordinance 84-134, Sections 16-70 through 74. Section 16-71 empowers the Director to prescribe the form for permit application. This form will be forwarded to your office under separate cover letter.

403.8(f)(l)(iv)(A) The Director may, to remedy or avoid a violation of Ordinance 84-134 or the sewer use permit, require a user to develop a compliance schedule for installation of control technology under Section 16-69. Additionally, the Director may require a compliance schedule as part of the required information under Sections 16-71 and 16-72 as a condition of obtaining a wastewater discharge permit.

403.8(f)(l)(iv)(B) The Director may require a user to submit all notices and self-monitoring reports required by EPA regulations through authority granted in Sections 16-71 and 16-72.

403.8(f)(l)(v) The Director or his representative may carry out inspection, surveillance and monitoring procedures under authority granted in Sections 16-75 and 16-76.

403.8(f)(l)(vi)(A) New Castle County may seek remedies for noncompliance with pretreatment standards and requirements. As a matter of general law, New Castle County may seek injunctive relief for noncompliance since any such noncompliance might result in irreparable harm to

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the treatment plant, to the collection system, to the health and safety of County employees, and to the environment; and since damages at law would not be an adequate remedy. New Castle County Code, Section 1-9 provides that where no specific penalty is established in any County ordinance, a violation of the provisions of the ordinance is punishable by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500.00), imprisonment not to exceed six (6) months, or both. Section 16-87 provides that a person who continues prohibited discharges is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction is punishable by a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 for each act of violation for each day of violation. In addition, Section 16-87 provides for termination of service and/or revocation of Discharge Permit and injunctive or other equitable relief when the Director determines that the nature of the violation will cause irreparable harm to the sewer system or imminent damages to public health.

403.8(f)(l)(vi)(B) The Director, under Section 16-83, may temporarily suspend a Discharge Permit or impose temporary termination of wastewater service. The Director may disconnect a user from the system immediately after informal notice in cases which present an imminent endangerment to the health or welfare of person. The Director may terminate service for non-emergency reasons after formal written notice.

403.8(f)(1)(vii) Confidentiality requirements are provided for in Section 16-75, "Inspection and Sampling."

As stated above, New Castle County will implement the requirements of its pretreatment program and apply pretreatment standards to individual industrial users through the use of a Wastewater Discharge Permit System, and by direct enforcement of its sewer use ordinances. A description of the exact procedures to be used in implementing the pretreatment program is provided in the Program Procedures portion of the New Castle County Pretreatment Program.

New Castle County intends to ensure compliance with pretreatment standards and requirements through inspection and sampling program authorized under Section 16-75 of Ordinance 84-134, which allows for the determination of noncompliance with discharge limitations and requirements independent of information supplied by the industrial user. The inspection and sampling program is described in the Program Procedures portion of this submission.

Those violating permit conditions will be forced to comply through use of the authority given the Director under Sections 16-83 through 85 to disconnect the user from the sewer system, or terminate and/or revoke the users Discharge Permit. New Castle County is prepared to take court action where necessary to force compliance with its ordinance permits or orders.

Plans for implementation also include agreement between the County Attorney, the City Solicitor of Wilmington and the City Solicitor of Newark to coordinate enforcement activities when a violation is suspected and to periodically review the procedures utilized by the

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respective departments of public works. Significant variations in pollutant concentrations will be forwarded to the respective legal departments and time allocated for review on a regular basis.

If you have any questions concerning Ordinance 84-134 or the enforcement mechanism outlined herein, please contact my office at the above number, or the Complaints Officer at (302) 571-7500.

Sincerely,

Jonathan B. Taylor County Attorney

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cc: J. B. Asthana, Ph.D., P.E., Sanitary Engineer H. James Childerston, Esq., Complaints Officer